

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS OGDEN AIR LOGISTICS CENTER (AFMC) HILL AIR FORCE BASE, UTAH

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL POTENTIAL BIDDERS FOR THE OGDEN ALC PMEL ACQUISITION

FROM: OO-ALC/LH

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- 1. As an introduction, I am Col Mike Williams, Director of the Space & C3I System Directorate, Ogden ALC, UT. MajGen Bergren has appointed me to be the new Source Selection Authority (SSA) for the Ogden ALC's Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratory (PMEL) acquisition.
- 2. I am a relatively new arrival at the Ogden ALC and, as a result, I have had no prior exposure to, or connection with, the development and issues regarding the recently cancelled PMEL Solicitation. As the PMEL SSA, I wanted to briefly address some issues of mutual concern, as well as share my overall philosophy for conducting the PMEL acquisition fairly and without prejudice.
- 3. First, as you may know, proposals for the PMEL solicitation # F42650-01-R-A019, were due October 24, 2001. Prior to the proposal due date the Government received two protests and several letters voicing concern about the solicitation. As part of the efforts to answer the issues raised in the protests, the Government formed a multi-disciplinary "fresh eyes" review team. The team concluded there were significant problems in the solicitation that needed to be corrected. Based on the issues uncovered, and to ensure a fair process for all potential bidders, on 2 Nov 01, I cancelled the solicitation and directed a new start. I tasked the newly formed acquisition team to take a fresh look at the requirements, the issues with the previous solicitation, and craft an acquisition strategy that would help assure we successfully conduct the Ogden PMEL mission and makes good business sense to our industry counterparts.
- 4. Second, the "rumor" the Government was looking for a vehicle to bring the PMEL workload back "in house" was not a rumor. There were two separate competing philosophies at the Ogden ALC. While both had the end goal of having a reliable AFMETCAL certified PMEL lab in place, the competing philosophies of Contractor vs. Organic approaches created significant internal conflict, as well as sending confusing signals regarding the Governments' true intentions toward the Small Business community. This has been resolved. I have met with the Ogden Executive Director, Mr. Tom Miner, as well as the customer, and we have agreed the current "Non-Organic" PMEL workload will be contracted out. The Ogden ALC position, and the goal of the new solicitation, is to award a long term contract to a contractor who can obtain and maintain AFMETCAL certification, and who can provide the quality of service Ogden ALC customers demand in order to accomplish Air Force mission requirements.
- 5. Third, to get an excellent contractual arrangement the Government will look for inputs from any and all sources, Industry as well as other Commands with PMEL-type operations. We look forward to the receipt of Industry inputs since nothing at this point is in concrete, and we will definitely consider any approach that makes sense. We want the winner of this new solicitation to succeed and we request Industry input to help make this happen. I encourage you to put your best team on this critical acquisition.

6. I invite your senior representative to meet with me and other interested bidders for a short discussion prior to the start of the PMEL industry day, now scheduled for 18 Dec 01. My purpose is to reinforce the Government's interest in a fair, open, and honest acquisition. Thanks for your continued support to the warfighters and this great nation!

MICHISEL D. WILLIAMS, Colonel, USAF Director, Space & C3I Systems